Required Tables of the Betting. The followers of the great racing meetings at the Eastern tracks in 1896-7-8-9 have reason to emember certain changes that may be due to the purer atmosphere, which undoubtedly surrounds the tracks controlled by the Jockey Club, and is also due in some measure to the absence of the old time \$40,000 race plunger, who had a tremendous weight in the making of what are known as favorites. His absence has affected the percentage of the first favorite, oringing more second choices to the front, has not affected the total of first second choices combined to the found in the grouping or bunching of the wins. In 1891 first favorites averaged 45 per and first and second 68 per cent. In 1892, first favorites 46 per cent., first and secend 64 per cent.; in 1893, first favorites 47 per cent, and first and second 64 per cent : in 1894. Brot favorites 50 per cent, and first and second 7 per cent.; in 1895, first favorites 45 per cent. and first and second 64 per cent : in 1896, first favorites 50 per cent. and first and second 65 er cent.; in 1897, first favorites 42 per cent nd first and second 63 per cent.; in 1898, first avorites 44 per cent, and first and second 68 per cent; and in 1889 first favorites 39 per cent. ad first and second 64 per cent. To offset this the gradually increased price against the avorite. In 1895 the average price against evorite winners was 19 20: in 1898 it was 1-1; 1807, 43-31; in 1898, a trifle short of 7-5, and n 1890 a trifle short of 8 -5 for the year.

The immediate effect of the change has saturally been a greater number of losing avorites in the given hundred of races, and ble with the 39 per cent of 1899 of course called or more capital than with the 50 per cent. of but the average winnings were increased in the proportion that for every hundred dollar bet won, a profit of \$160 was made instead of only \$100, or exactly 60 per cent ncrease. Thus a punter could reduce his initial bet 40 per cent, and still make about the same amount at the close of the season. The same amount at the close of the season. The dyed-in-the-wool favorite players grumbled and remained steadlast until Sheepshead full meeting last year, but when the twenty-five vinning favorites in seventy-eight races cashed tickets, they shook their heads, not even finding comfort in the good average odds of 5-3 against the winners. The long, low grades (predicted weeks previous in The Sivs), with "accidental" after "accidental" proved too depressing, and the work of scaling out new averages of risk to suit the new conditions was not attractive. Even the obvious fact that the extreme outward swing of the pendulum was probably

risk to suit the new conditions was not attractive. Even the obvious fact that the extreme outward swing of the pendulum was probably reached, and that with the advance to the new century would come a return to a higher ratio, was deprecated as only possible, and to this fact is due much of the swinging into line with the successful jockeys at the three closing meetings of last season, and at the winter tracks. The carrent good systems for favorites will still be played, and successfully where due care is given, but the popular demand undoubtedly is for some sound method of play along other lines, and to those who are looking for data on this matter the following systems will probably prove of interest:

Modern experience has proved to many men that the success of a given system of betting does not lie so much in the matter of picking winners as in the method of betting. That is to say, while it is necessary to get a cerrain amount of winning choices, the absolutely necessary percentage to strike a profit may be much reduced if the proper method of betting is employed. This is not widely understood, as may be witnessed in almost every plan made public by men who pretend to make practically fabuous winnings by their method, which consists almost invariably of a flat bet and a curiously fortunate succession of wins at long shots, such as come to few who have grown gray in the fun. This is one reason why the high percentage of the first favorite winners has always attracted so much attention, and although the cumulative or the doubling up method of betting in the long run generally proved disastrous, what is known as the proves disastrons, what is known as the integral system of scaling bets has proved satisfactory when duly combined with a study of the average percentage of wins at the individual tracks, as shown in these articles in other years. Then it was the 43-44 per cent of first favorites in front at average odds of 7-5 for the season which made success, and the only for the season which made success, and the only drawback was the "accidentais" dealt with in the article of Dec 31, ison these largely increasing the required capital, and in all but expert hands bringing failure. With the average odds at 7-5 there was practically no leeway age odds at 7. a there was practically no leeway to work against them and to follow any other horse of second choice or handicapped choice along the strict integral lines required a small fortune. The Redd system was one of the first good ones to step aside from the beaten track along the playing of favorites, and it had much to recommend it. Its chief fault was the delicacy of judgment required at certain junctures, generally most important ones, and investigation along this and several other lines evolved the following system, which may be taken, as the horse to play, the selection of any particular turf writer, the handicap choices of the individual, or any other choice in which a corresponding variation of odds is found. The idea primarily is to grasp all possible winnings of straight, place and third, and at the same time to use every point in keeping down the capital

corresponding variation of odds is found. The idea primarily is to grasp all possible winnings of straight, place and third, and at the same time to use every point in sceping down the capital required for the ring to the midthaum, relying on the average to make the winning when the balance is struck. Those who want a "so-muchaday" system will find no use for it: the man who wishes to make money will probably adapt to his own requirements. In the tollowing examples on last season's running the predictions of a well-known turf writer are used in preference to pursonal handicap selections. The method of making the bet is the integral system along specially modified lines, and the first bet is made \$5 for convenience of calculation and can just as easily be \$1 or \$100 if the rules are followed. When the first bet is made a "5" is placed at the left-hand margin of the page in the betting beck and further across are placed the \$5 of the bet, and the name and price of the horse. If it wins, cross off the marginal figure and make the corresponding entry for the next bet when another \$5 is laid, if this loses, carry the lost "5" over and place it under the marginal "5" to form a calculating column, and these two added together give \$10 as the amount of the next bet. If this is won strike out both and again return to the \$5 bet. If lost, bring the "10" into the marginal column and add top and bottom figures together to find the amount of the next bet, and when a win comes cancel the flowers which nded gave the amount watered. This should be easy. Now for the application. The first bet of \$5 is always straight, and odd of 1-2 are accepted, no lower when the next bet, and when a win comes cancel the flowers which nded gave the amount watered. This should be easy. Now for the application. The first bet of \$5 is always straight, and odd of 1-2 are accepted, no lower when the next bet, of \$10 comes the horse is placed at a straight and place wherever even money or better is to be obtained for the place, and, where even money

Thus in the sixteen racing days of the meeting twenty-five series were closed and \$619 won, the three greatest amounts of capital called for being \$35, \$105 and \$280, the latter amount coming when the player was nearly \$600 ahead on his original capital. The first idea to strike the average punter will be, "If so small an amount of carital is required, why call for so great an initial capital, and why not play each series out until all integral figures are cancelled?" The answer is that safety in racing speculation is of far greater importance than magnitude of the gains. Once establish the safety her and show a profit of from 100 to 300 per cent, or even more, on the play from April to November, and the requisite capital will be forthcoming or accumulated from winnings. In all forms of speculation there are found extremes of success and loss, each governed and compensated for by the other, and while the advent of a string of from four to seven consecutive winners, either favorites or personal clokees, is noted and commented upon, the equally heavy swing of the pendulum in the opposite direction to work out the average percentage record is only too frequently lost sight of and underrated. These swings occurring after a run of wins are commonly found to start by degrees, and thus with integral or other scale betting will be found in many cases bivoting on an "accidental" where one win more would have closed the series, and this has the effect of largely increasing the capital required. Thus with a \$5 initial bet in the Mechanius series of April 24, 25, 28, detailed above, the series ran to the \$30 Freeling husen but, which, had the horse won, would have closed the series \$67 ahead, or had it finished second would have closed it \$7 ahead, at that time only \$100 had been called for, but Freylinghusen was not placed, the "accidental" was precipitated, and only the timely win of Zanone at 9 1 kept the requisite capital down. There having been six horses at from events to \$5, 100 of capital would have been required. 10g meeting of 1899.

5 \$5 Swamp Angel, 6-1

5 \$5 King Thistle, 4-1

10 \$5 King Thistle 1, 2, 8-5

\$5 Kirkwood, 8-1

\$5 Kirkwood, 1, 2, 3, 1-1

\$5 King Barleycorn, 4-1

5 \$5 King Barleycorn, 4-1 5 85 Swamp Angel, 5-1
5 85 King Thistle, 4-1
10 85 King Thistle, 1-2, 8-5
(\$5 Kirkwood, 8-1
\$5 Kirkwood, 1, 2, 3, 1-1
\$5 Kirkwood, 1, 2, 3, 1-1
\$5 Kirkwood, 1, 2, 3, 1-1
\$5 Ling Barleycorn, 4-1
\$5 Johnny J., 5-1
\$5 Johnny J., 1, 2, 8-5
10 \$5 Tyrshena, 8-1
\$5 Tyrshena, 1, 2, 3, 6-5

55 Zanone, 3-1 5 \$5 Dalga, 15-1.... 5 \$10 St. Lorenzo, 5-2. the second bet, therefore it was played straight, had there been evens the winnings would have been \$12 - 5 and \$5 - 5 - \$17 5 \$5 Rotterdam, 5-1 5 \$5 Laurenta, 7-1 1 \$5 Laurenta, 1, 2, 2-1 \$35 \$5 s. The demand for a system to play the lockers is strongly demonstrated this seasor, notwith steeding all that has been done to show the uncertainty surrounding this form of speculation. The following system is outlined to give a basis for calculation and play on which each punter can map out his own developments. The idea is to start at the first day of Aqueduct and keep a percentage tab of the successful lockeys, and this is easiest done by making an alphabetical arrangement of them and drawing a 

11112223

\$20

89 Won

85

\$20

850 Won

72 25

\$32

\$3

\$10

\$10

\$5

\$120 65

20

20 \$15

\$21

May 5-

\$5

\$12 Won

\$20

15

\$5 Garterless, 4-1 ....

\$5 Satin Slipper, 13-5 \$10 Kinnikinnick, 1-1 \$15 Shoreham, 5-5

Here there being no even money the horses

5 Motley, 1-3.

\$5 Zanone, 4-1

\$6 Uam Var, 3-1

Sweet Caporal, 2
10 Mont Eagle, 18-5

15 Gaze 1-1

Vertigo, 10-1

Sadduces, 1-3

Concord, 1-3

Mazarine, 8-1

Jazarine

Peaceful, 1-3...
Blueaway, 5-1...
Tamor, 1-1
The Amazon, 1-1
Mechanus, 2-5
Village Pride, 12-1.
Village Pride, 12, 4-1
Inishfree, 1-1
Daube, 15-1

\$5 Diucaway, 5-1...
\$5 Tamor, 1-1
\$5 The Amazon, 1-1...
\$5 Mechanus, 9-5
\$5 Village Pride, 1,2,4-1
\$5 Unisque Pride, 1,2,4-1
\$5 Doub'e Dummy, 15-1
\$5 Doub'e Dummy, 1, 2,4-1

25 \$10 Doub'e Dummy, 1, 2,

ing uncancelled integrals.

Series closed with uncancelled integrals

5 \$5 Summer Girl. 1-1.
5 \$5 Kirkwood, 3-1.
10 \$5 Kirkwood, 1, 2, -11.
\$15 Gaze, 6-5......

5 \$5 Shoreham, 7-5 . 5 \$5 Harry Reed, 8-5

5 55 Tyrshena, 7-1.

5 5 55 Zanone, 3-1

10 5 55 Zanone, 1, 2, 1-1

10 5 55 Zanone, 1, 2, 1-1

10 5 515 King Barleye'n, 8-5

20 810 Uam Var, 4-1

20 \$10 Uam Var, 4-1

20 \$10 Uam Var, 4-1

50 \$25 L'pGlab, 3-1, 3-5

55 \$30 B. McCelland, 2-1

40 \$35 Fr'eling'n, 2-1, 3-5

40 \$35 Fr'eling'n, 2-1, 3-5

55 \$35 Brisk, 15-10

May 4
8 15 15 Belgrave, 1, 2, 3-1

55 \$35 Brisk, 15-10

515 Alex, 2-1

\$320 Judge Magee, 8-1

\$320 Judge Magee, 8-1

\$325 Warrenton, 7-2

\$300 Warrenton, 7-2

\$300 Warrenton, 7-2

\$300 Warrenton, 7-2

\$300 Warrenton, 1, 2, 1-1

\$350 Jugglery, 9-1

\$350 Jugglery, 9-1

\$350 Jugglery, 5-1

\$350 Hop Scotch, 8-5 120

Harry Reed, 1-3

70 \$70 Lamp Globe, 8-5 112

5- \$5 Alex, 1-6 \$5 Imperator 5-1 ...... \$25 Won

May 1- 5 \$5 Sweet Caporal, 4-5.
5 \$5 Alex. 3-1.
85 Alex. 1 2.6-5...

April 29 5 \$5 Neponset, 7-5 5 10 Greatland, 2-1

30 \$30 Kirkwood, 8-5 April 25-40 \$30 Gaze, 4-5 50 \$10 Freyl'sen, 4-1 \$20 Danforth, 4-1 \$20 Danforth, 1-2, 8-5 \$30 Garteriess, 6-5 \$25 Country Dance, 3-1 \$20 Landouth, 1-2, 8-5 \$30 Garteriess, 6-5 \$25 Country Dance, 1-2, 1-1

were again played straight only

April 22-

April 20-5 \$5 Rare Perfunte, 6-5...

1234567 64 The boy with the highest percentage in each race is played straight and place, in the ratio of \$2 straight and \$5 place, without varying the bet. No boy is played twice in succession. Thus if Spencer is indicated for a race and played, no matter if he win or lose he is not played for the next race if he should be so indicated but the next indicated boy takes his place. Nothing lower than evens is accepted either straight or place, and where the place odds are not forthcoming the whole is placed straight. At Aqueduct last spring, missing the first day to get a line of percentage, this plan worked thus.

47 Spencer, 6-1, 2-1

\$7 Spencer, 6-1, 2-1 7 McCue, 10-1, 3-1 April 18-McCue, 10-1, 3-1 Morgan, 8-1, 13-5 MeCus.
O'Connor. 6-1.
Odom. 6-1.
Odom. 6-1.
Sodom. 1, 2, 2-1.
Spencer. 8-1.
Spencer. 1-1
7 McCue, 2-1.
7 Maher. 8-5
7 McCue, 12-1.
7 Morgan, 15-1. April 19-April 20-Spencer, 2-1 .... 2 McCue, 5-1.... 5 McCue, 1, 2, 7-5 7 Mitchell, 70-1.... April 21-7 Morgan, 4-1. 7 MeCue, 4-5

1 2 O'Connor, 8-1, 24 2 O'Connor, 1, 2, 3-1 15 7 Morgan, 3-5, 7 McCue, 6-1, 7 7 O'Connor, 1-1, 7 2 McCue, 6-1, 7 3 McCue, 6-1, 8 7 O'Connor, 8-1, 8 McCue, 1, 2, 5-5 7 O'Connor, 3-1. Maher, 3-1. Maher, 1, 2, 1-1. Morgan, 1-1. McCue, 5-1. O'Connor, 6-1. O'Connor, 1, 2, 2-1. McCue, 1-1. April 24-April 25-

7 McCue 1-1
2 Spencer, 10-1
5 Spencer, 1, 2, 3-1
7 Morgan, 3-1
7 Morgan, 3-1
7 Spencer, 1, 2, 3-1
7 Morgan, 3-1
7 Spencer, 7-8
8 Connor, 1, 2, 9-8
8 Connor, 1, 2, 9-8
9 Connor, 1, 1, 9-8
7 O'Connor 1-1
7 Spencer, 7-5
9 C'Connor, 7-1
9 C'Connor, 7-1
9 C'Connor, 1-2
1 Mitchell, 1, 2, 4-5
Mitchell, 1, 2-1
Mitchell, \$584 \$275 275 \$259 Won April 26-Zanone was the true handleap horse, winning the last twice out. This leaves the series with five uncancelled figures in the integral column, but it is at once closed as soon as it shows a win and another started. April 27-April 28-\$30 Won The series is ahead, so close it, not withstand-April 29-

Maher, 2-1 14
Spencer, 3-1 6
Spencer, 1-1 5
Maher, 14-8 19
Spencer, 3-1 11
McCue, 4-1 11 \$5 May 1-Won \$5 5 15 May 2 15 20 \$65 May 4-7 Spencer, 7-5. 2 Mitchell, 5-1 5 Mitchell, 1, 2, 8-5 \$5

7 Mitchell, 8-5 11 7 Spencer, 11-5. 2 Odom. 1, 2, 14-5. 7 Mitchell, 15-1 7 Spencer, 8-5. \$434 \$356 15 \$78 Won. Thus on an actual capital of \$50 the system won \$78, and it would seem that \$300 would make it safe. The writer does not favor jockey systems to any extent, the data for past years being limited, and this plan is only advanced in the crude form of the flat bet to show the working of the method so that players may adapt the scaled bet, the cumulative, or whatever method seems most attractive, any of which would pay infinitely larger returns. It must be remembered that there is a good deal of delicate work in keeping tab of the percentages, and that an error becomes more costly as it rolls along

rolls along from the results to date of the winter racing, which to a certain extent affects the averages at the opening tracks of the season, it would appear that Aqueduct should be a good meeting for the players of various first and second favorite systems, and the chart for the meeting is as follows:

meeting is as follows:

The wins of the first favorite are marked "1," those getting second with odds of \( \frac{1}{2} \), or better "x," those second with worse odds "x," and these unplaced "0." Last spring the Redd system won \$466 on \$467 capital, and the modified integral system won \$665 on \$167 capital, \$17 Won Here again the series was closed with uncan-latter requiring about \$1,000 for safety

#### BIG FISHES ON THE HOOK. A Californian's Story of Remarkable Captures

From the Washington Evening Star. "The fishing season having opened," said W S. Johnson of San Diego, Cal, 'it will be in order for the joke writer and the comic illustrator to refurbish the good old standby about the amateur fisherman, the small boy with the pin hook, the camera, and the confiding wife.

"When a Washingtonian goes up the Potomac and afterward tells about 'that big black bass weighing 614 pounds I caught above Great Falls, his friends smile pleasantly at his weakness and say, 'Ob, you're a fisherman,' which is a polite way of saying he is a prevaricator by force of habit.
"But with a rod and reel, and a line but

little heavier than the Potomac angler uses, fishermen catch off San Diego black sea bass weighing 200 pounds and over. A sea bass of this weight is as long as a man of average height is tall, and it is a veritable monster to take by hook and line. The world's record for rod and reel fishing is held by T. S. Manning of Sierra Madre, Call, who landed at Santa Catalina Island, off the California coast, a sea bass weighing 330 pounds. A fish called the leaping tuna, which resembles in appearance somewhat the little mackerel of Eastern waters and is considered the most active of the game fish and which reaches gigantic size, is also caught by rod and reel, Cot. C. P. Morehouse of Pasadena holding the world's record, having lauded a monster weighing 251 pounds. I have known of three men to catch 450 pounds of black sea bass and yellowtail with hook and line in one day. The yellowtail is a gamy fish weighing from 15 to 80 pounds. These fish in the Pacific are caught with a 21 thread line, which, as all fishermen know, is comparatively small.

"The fishing is done from a rowboat or small yeach usually. It takes the angler from a half to three hours to reel up his prey to the boat's side, where it may be hooked by the gaff and brought in the boat. The fisherman is often completely exhausted by a large bass or tuna, so terrifically does it fight for liberty, and it requires the greatest skill and patience on the part of his captor to land him with his slender rod. With quick turns, downward rushes and mighty runs, the fish struggles for freedom. Sometime the line breaks and he secures it.

"The leaping tunas are said to be equal to two or three tarpon in point of strength. I have known of small boats being towed as far as twenty miles, and upward of six hours spent in exhausting the tunas of that he could be gaffed. From 200 to 600 feet of line will be recled off in a single 'rush' of these flerce fighters. The boat will tear through the select fighters of the sea of such the order of the water during the fishing season is usually calm, as the Pacific height is tall, and it is a veritable monster to take by hook and line The world's

"How these gamy fighters of the sea of such How these gamy fighters of the sea of such enormous size may be caught with a thread-like line and a stender rod, at the tip no larger than a very small slate pencil, is a mystery to the uniniated, but it is done and proves the skill of the angler. I have seen a man with an s-ounce rod and 21-thread line bring to the boat's side a sea bass weighing over 200 pounds, and the catches I have cited, which are authentic, even though told by a Californian of the land of the big trees, were probably made with rods but little, if any, heavier." MEETINGS OF AN UNLUCKY GERMAN

AND A BALD-FACED GRIZZLY. The Bear Brings Fortune to Butch Jake and Sometimes Nearly Kills Him-Brought Him the Mule That Discovered a Famous Mine

A Desperate Remedy for Bad Luck. SPOKANE, Wash., April 24.-From All Fool's Day to April 13. Dutch Jake's fare game lost a straight \$15,000. Consequently, the morning after Friday, April 13, Dutch Jake set out after his mascot. Some persons have preferences in the matter of mascots, but Dutch Jake's mascot is not his own voluntary selection. It is merely his by right of discovery, and the discovery was unavoidable.

Dutch Jake, whose name is really Jacob Goetz, is one of the pioneers of the Cœur d'Alène country. In Germany he was so proverbially unlucky that he left the Fatherland hoping to get rid of a commiseration even if he did not lose his bad luck. His adventures in that stretch of country lying between he Rockies and the Atlantic seaboard were strictly in accordance with his experience since birth and he became so desperate that he entered the Cour d'Alène country, contemptuous of treacherous Indians or still more treacherous fate. It is yet recalled that he took the first ham into the Coeur d'Alenes. It was a Westphalian, too, which he smuggled from Germany. The mere fact that he came to the country without any miner's tools and with only the ham for assets was sufficient to establish an immediate reputation for eccentricity Generosity was one of his traits and that proved his salvation. The evening hearrived in camp at Murray every miner wanted a a taste of that ham. They exchanged bacon flour, venison and bear meat for it. Consequently when Dutch Jake took an inventory of his assets the next morning he decided to start a restaurant, for he had accumulated a vast amount of provisions. In the first month two cabins in which he had his restaurant were burned down. After this his tent was blown away in a storm and he was beginning to wonder what would happen next

hoodoo of his own, and he figured out that the ghost might scare it away. The third day after he had established his eating house in the haunted cabin he came home at 4 o'clock in the afternoon to prepare supper for his customers and met a hald faced grizzly coming out of the door. The bear was crunching the last of as fine a mess of salmon trout as ever came out of Lake Pend Oreille, but he stopped short and grunted like a hog when he saw Jake. He was the smallest bear Jake had ever seen, but that ugly white streak down his face gave him an uncanny look, especially as Jake was rather expecting to meet a ghost anyway. No man ever went without side arms in the Cœur d'Alène in those days and many do not now. Jake wanted his rifle, however, and that was nearer the bear than Jake. Just what happened will always be a matter depending on Jake's veracity, for the only circumstantial evidence consisted of the broken sash in one window of the cabin and a few scratches on Jake's back. Having caught the prevailing spirit in the Cour d'Alenes, Jake did not boast of his exploit, merely referring to the bear's visit

when Jim Wardner gave him a cabin that every-

body said was haunted. Dutch Jake had a

by way of an apology for not having trout on the bill of fare that evening. Certainly Jake did not scare the bald-faced grizzly very much, for the very next morning when he went to empty the dish water he found

"Mebbe sometimes we bust up, but I neffer hunt dot bear again," was the way Jake concluded his story.

From that time until the first of this April the games have not had anything more than usual depression, s but this year on the afternoon of All Foois Day, Frank Symons, a Klondiker, started in with a winning of \$7.000 and others kept the pace up for three days longer. A waiter named Watson won enough to buy one of the best restaurants in town and he is now proprietor of The Owl. On the morning of the fourth day Dutch-Jake was looking blue.

"I guess dot bear was dead," he said.

Some one suggested that he might go and see and Jake started off on the first train for Sand Point. He did not confide in any one except his partner, who sent a man along on the next train. On April 16 the games in the Cœur d'Alène were more than rapacious. Nobody won. By that time Jake's search had become public and the facetious expression of the day was "Jake must have found the grizzly." At six o'clock on the evening of April 16. Herry Baer got this message:

"Sand Point, Idaho, April 16.—Send Doc Goddard on the first train. Jake is all torn to pieces and doctor here says he may not get well.

The doctor was sent and Jake was brought to the Spokane Hospital. He is not so dangerously injured as reported. The bear merely tore little gashes out of him here and there. In all there are something more than twenty separate feels wounds. Jake says that he and a ranchman were talking about the grizzly, and that the ranchman was saying that his pigs had been stolen by a bald-faced grizzly when

they came upon the grizzly eating a pig. The ranchman levelled his Winchester, but Jake ranchma levelled his Winchester, but Jake knocked it up in the air, and while they were disputing the bear tried to act as peacemaker with the net result of scaring the ranchman away and wounding Jake almost mortally. Instead of Dutch Jake's annual picnic to his employees this year there will be a bear hunt in which at least a hundred men will take part and that bald-faced grizzly will have to live in Spokane hereafter. The games are winning much money. "Jake's Grizzly" is a colloquial substitute for "The Tiger."

#### ELECTRICITY'S EFFECT ON FISH. Experiments Showing Their Unusual Susceptability to the Mystic Current.

(Copyright, 1900, by R. L. Jones.) The use of a short section of the big rive as the path of the return current by those who laid out the trolley line on the upper Mississippi produced certain unexpected results that may lead to the regular employment of electricity in commercial fishing. Soon after the return current was first sent through the river large numbers of supposedly dead fish were seen floating on the surface of the water. They attracted some attention because of their number, but for no other reason, since it was not then noticed that they were all within the influence of the mystic current. Later it was sentthrough a portion of the river further down, and again large numbers of floating fish were seen. This time it was noticed that as they floated down stream and out of the electric influence, they

revived and swam away, apparently as lively This led to a series of experiments. In the course of the experiments the electrical current was applied and then cut off recal current was applied and then can be peatedly, the seemingly dead fish appearing at the surface of the water when the electrical current was conducted through the stream and only at such times. Some of the fish were gathered, and being taken out of the electrified water they revived almost instantly. Some were made captives in small pools and kept, to see if the effect of the electricity was lasting, at the end of a month's captivity they seemed to be as healthy and active as ever. It was as if the current had temporarily paralyzed them without in any way affecting them permanently. At the power house of the Inter-Urban Traction Company of Minneapolis two large iron plates, each measuring about six feet square, were submerged in the stream. To one was fastened the positive wire of a circuit, and to the other the negative wire. The plates were stationed about fifteen feet apart. A current of 500 volts was allowed to pass between them through the intervening water, and, as before, numerous fish came to the surface. Moreover, frogs, muskrats and all sorts of water animals made their appearance on the surface in a paralyzed condition, but all revived as the fish had done as soon as they floated away from the electrical influence.

A later experiment on a larger scale brought peatedly, the scemingly dead fish appearing

fluence.

A later experiment on a larger scale brought to the surface a thirty-pound sturgeon. The operators of these experiments used boats to gather in the desirable fish that were capto gather in the desirable fish that were captured. In this operation it was discovered that although the electrical current had a paralyzing effect upon all water creatures it did not have the least effect upon the human body. A hand was first put in the water cautiously, there was not the slightest uppleasant sensation. Bolder investigations followed, when it was found that a man could swim in the stream and among the fish, collecting them at will and yet sufter no shock whatever. This is believed to be due to the greater resistance to the electric current furnished by the body of a fish. That the fish should be affected so strongly is still remarkable, since by actual test it has been shown that the body of a fish has greater electrical resistance than water. has greater electrical resistance than water

# PROUD TILLERS OF THE SOIL.

#### Something About the Membership of the Farmers' Club of Pennsylvania. From the Chicago Record.

One of the most interesting clubs in the world is the Farmers' Club of Pennsylvania, which was founded in 1785 by Gen. John Cadwalader. Robert Morris, the financier of the revolution,

on the blind frame that evening of the control of t

loon. To guide a parachute out of harm's way a practised hand can tilt it one way or the other spill out air, and thus work it to where you want to land, or to avoid water trees, chimneys or church spires. Circus ascensions are generally made in the evening. When the sun goes down the wind goes down. The balloon then shoots into the air and the parachute drops back on the circus lot, or not far away. A balloon is made of four-cent muslin and weighs about 500 pounds. A parachute is made of eight-cent muslin.

"There is much more danger in coming cown in a balloon. When it strikes the earth it's like a big ball, and bounds up again, taking you with it. Not long ago in Mckeesport, Pa., I came down in a balloon because the parachute would not let go. I nearly came down in a big stack of a blast furnace, but the hot air drove the balloon away. After that I never intrusted the parachute arrangements to any one, but attended to it myself.

"The rope that secures the parachute is cut with a kinfe. The aeronaut drops fully too feet before that parachute begins to fill. It must fill, if you're up high enough. There are several hundred parachute men in the business and the accidents are less in ratio than railroad casualties. Our business is new at that. After while the ratio will be less. A man can't shake out a parachute, if it don't open. A man in the air is simply powerless. Invariably the fall is head first. When the parachute begins to fill the descent is less rapid, and finally when the parachute has gradually filled it bulges out with a pop. Then the aeronaut climbs on to his trapeze and guides the parachute to a safe landing. In seven cases out of ten, you can land back on the lot where you started from. The first performers must have had nerve to make the drop. Now, it is a regular business, not considered hazardous, at all. The hardest work is to bring back the balloon with a wagon. Sometimes it tears in the trees, or wherever it may land when not in open.

# BABY MONKEY IN THE PARK.

# Only the Third to Be Born in the Menagerie

in the Last Eight Years. There is a baby monkey in the monkey house at the Central Park Menagerie, born April 15. For the greater part of the time, in the exhibition hours, the mother monkey holds the little one in her arms: she tends it with affectionate care; at other times she lets it down on the floor of the cage, where it is now able to run about. Monkeys rarely breed in captivity; only three monkeys have been born in the Central Park Menagerie in eight years. The first of these lived about eighteen months, the second about eleven months. CATCHING RED SNAPPERS.

Main Stay of the Fishing Industry in the Gulf of Mexico.

From the Galveston Daily News Deep sea fishing in the Gulf of Mexico has been carried on for profit for a great many years. Nearly every seaport on the United States portion of the Gulf sends out its flee of small schooners of about fifty or sixty tons each, which return usually with redsnapper and June fish or warsaws. The fleet operating in the Gulf is a large one, Pensacola alone having about forty-five vessels in the trade Galveston has seven, which are to be increased to twelve this fall. All the Florida ports are engaged in the business and have been for a great many years, from these points going the supply of the northern and eastern markets as well as those more closely located. These places like Galveston, where the trade was carried on for several years with one or two schooners, had small beginnings, but have steadily increased as the demand for the fish became greater. To the fishing business redsnappers will always occupy the same relative position held in the southern commerce by cotton. It is the staple of the Gulf fish ing business.

The redsnapper is a fish that is particularly desired by timid people who fear the bones There are no small bones in a redsnapper The flesh is coarse grained, but of excellent flavor, especially when prepared by baking. They weigh from forty pounds down to six or eight bounds each. They feed upon smaller fishes and in doing so fellow the shallow places in the Gulf known as banks. The most successful captains say they fish on the bottom but so avaricious is a lou gry redsnapper that ne flies at almost any object, and has been known to spap at a piece of red flannel with such avidity that he landed on the book. They are thus easily enoght if found in schools, but it is not infrequent that vessels return with but small catches as a result of rough weather or the migration, of the fish. Then, again, some excellent cargoes are caught, the largest ever having been brought to Calveston by one vessel being about 45,000 pounds. The banks from which the Galveston supply is recured extend from about thirty miles off shore to Campeachy, where a great deal of the fishing for the Florida ports is done. The snapper season is never ending, for, while the Campeachy banks may agord the best supply in winter, yet there are plways some on the near banks, which are improved in summer. A schooner usually requires about two weeks

in which to make a trip. It is iced with about twenty or twenty-two tons of ice in the hold and provisioned usually the day before departure. A crew of ten or twelve men is put abcard. These work on shares, which an unisually successful catch has run up to as high as \$40 for each fisherman. This is considerably above the average, however, which is somewhere about \$20 a trip. With all on board it is a matter of fisherman's luck-the better the

she was the more be sarms. Fishermen, once they get settled on a not look upon it as a bone. There is a bunk in which to sleep and usually they succeed in finding a snack of something to eat, and are sure of living will while at sea, port they feel that the latchstring of their boat is always out. The fishing is done with book and line. Almost any old thing will do for bait. Share have occasionally begin capit, and the state of th

# Boarding House Pleasantry.

From the Chicago Daily News.

"It's a darned hedgeheg, said Weid to himself, "that's come in to take what the lears have left."

As he stepped across to fold in a flap of the blanket the bed rose up and started for the door, carrying Weld along. The floor shook with the tread of some heavy animal that grunted, growled and scratched as no hedgehog could do. It was pleasant enough riding on the back of an angry bear with a quarter of a ton of hemlock boughs and a lot of bedding for a saddle, but Weld knew the ride would be a short one at best, for the bear could never take the bed through the door, and wishing to capture the bear as well as to save his own skin, he leaped from the bed, and rushing out of the camp slammed the door behind him, effectually barring the passage of the bear. With the aid of an axe and hammer and nails, which were on the sled, he turned the camp into a prison and started home for a rife to shoot the bear.

Just before coming to the icy meadow Weld passed through a growth of tall saping spruces, and feeling the need of a ladder he tade up his horses to a stump and cut down one of the tallest and slimmest trees he could find. As the evergreen top fell into a brush heap with a loud swish a yearling cub immed from cover and made for the road. When the horses smelled the bear and saw him impling toward them they did not wait to be unhitched, but broke the line and rau ait the way home, leaving Weld to waik ten miles on wet ice in slippery moceasins.

Veld was too angry and too lame to do any-

A BEAR IN WRONG PLACES.

FIRST WELD FOUND HIM IN CAMP

ASLEEP UNDER THE BED.

Then Weld's Partridge Dog Was Discovered Patiently Watching a New Kind of Bird A

Novel Bear Hunt Illustrating the Queer

Ways That Obtain in the Maine Woods

OLAMON, Me., April 27. As a rule the great

adventures in the Maine woods grow up from

small beginnings. If a man starts out to shoot

moose or bears he never finds anything bigger

than chickadees or skunks, but when he makes

up his mind to pull a few branches of winter-

green to add flavor to his spring bitters, and

thereby beguile the minister into unwented

fits of hilarity, he is almost certain to meet

a bear at every turn of the road and to find

loup-cerviers enough to make a fur coat. Thinks

have run by contraries so long that the bear

hunters always take a berry pail along when

they hunt for bear tracks, and the berry-pickers

carry a rifle concealed inside their coats, feel-

ing assured that they must kill a bear or two

Heavy rains with floods and gales of wind

compelled the pulp wood choppers here to

quit camp two weeks earlier than usual this

spring. As they were forced to build

rafts and wade or swim in ice cold water

for ten miles, the camp bedding and other

impediments were left behind. As soon as

the water had drained off enough to permit the

passage of horses, Charles Weld, the foreman

of the crew, hitched a span to a wagon sled

and went for the articles left behind. He

found excellent sledding all the way, the water

having turned the snow to pulp which had

frozen to glare ice. On reaching camp he

discovered that bears had broken down

the doors and eaten up nearly all the

provisions kept in stock. The melasses

jug had been broken on the floor, and at every

spot which the sweet fluid had fallen the bears

lapped and gnawed the wood until it looked

as if it had been planed. They had

eaten the fatty portions from a half

barrel of salt pork and broken the sugar frkin

and chewed up the stayes for the sweets that

and the grindstone on the sled and had begun to roll up the great blanket that covered the field bed at one end of the camp when he heard a sound as of something snoring on the ficer

under the big bunk.
"It's a darned hedgehog," said Weld to him-self, "that's come in to take what the bears have left."

Weld had got the feur tarre

were in them.

before they come to a berry patch.

but broke the line and ran all the way home, leaving Wed to walk ten miles on wet ice in slippery moccasins.

Veld was too angry and too lame to do anything but groan and invent new swear words the next day. On the third morning he went to camp again, taking his Winchester and two neighbors along to help him kill the bear. The camp stands on a hill with the door fronting the weeds road. Weld made sure of his horses by putting them in the hovel and shutting the door before he began operations against the camp. He tried the door and the boarded windows at the side and found them all safe. Then he carefully drew out the twenty-penny nails that held the door to the jamb. Placing the end of a long pole in the crack of the door he cocked his rifle and said to one of the men:

"Pry the door open inch by inch and tell me if you see anything. That bear has cost too much for me to lose him now."

The opening grew wider until the door swung back against the camp. As no bear appeared the men began to laugh at Weld and ask him what kind of game he was trying to play upon them, because next to a good bear hunt they enjoyed a good joke, and if he would show them where the joke came in, they were ready and anytous to laugh. Weld hunted under

what kind of game he was trying to play upon them, because next to good bear hunt they enjoyed a good joke, and if he would show them where the joke came in, they were ready and anxious to laugh. Weld hunted under the bunk for the bear, using bad language and assuring his companions that he had nailed the bear in the camp before going home.

"And you were in such a hurry that you couldn't stop to ride, "suggested one of the men.

"And your horses felt the way you clid," said the other man.

"Shut up," cried Weld, "or I'll shoot you both. I'm tired of fooling. Let's go home."

As soon as they had locked the shed and hitched in the horses Weld thought of his partridge dog that had followed the team. After he had whistled and called without getting a response he walked to the rear of the camp, fearing that the dog had been hurt. Tenseconds later he called the men to him.

"Look a-there," he cried, "and tell me who's joking now."

The eyes of the men followed the direction of his finger and saw a dead bear hanging head down from an open window in the peak of the camp. Before going home the trappers had brought in a bear trap that had been set in the woods, and had thrown it into a loft above the field bed. It was badly rusted, and did not spring from the jar of the fail. Later on the bear in trying to escape had climbed to the loft and put his hind foot in the trappers had dashed through the class and fallen out as far as the chain, which was attached to a wooden toggle, would allow. In this position the bear had hung until death came. The dog, believing it had treed a bird of some rare species, was sitting still and patiently waiting for the gunners to arrive. The time was now ripe for Weld's helpers to get angry.

"The next time you want somebody to help till a dead bear," said they, "you'd better go to some other store. We ain't no coroners."

# FUN WITH MR. GORMAN.

#### A Daring Western Politician Angered the Senator, but Was Fully Forgiven.

Not long ago a rather prominent politician from the middle West was in Washington He had heard of Gorman for years and wanted to meet him. One day the opportunity presented itself and an introduction followed. The two were left together, and then the visitor tried to draw the Maryland boss out on various questions of public interest- not abruptly or with & view to making any use of what might be said, but more through curiosity to know the Gorman opinion than anythi. g else. Gorman retired into his hole, as usual. The visitor was nettled and made up his mind to force the

fighting. "By the way, Mr. Gorman," he said, "what are your initials? " "My name is Arthur Pue Gorman, sir," was

the reply. "Oh, yes, and I believe you are from Virginia,

"Oh, yes, and I believe you are from Virginia, or is it North Carolina?"
"Maryland, sir," was the response, Gorman beginning to be a little annoyed
"Of course, it is Maryland; how stupid of me not to remember," said the visitor, adding:
You were in the House once, were you not for was it the Senate?"
Gorman nearly stopped breathing. His face grew red. The idea that a man of this visitor's prominence should not be familiar with the public career of the gentleman from Maryland was almost beyond comprehension. Rather testily he replied: "I was a member of the Senate, sir, and flatter myself that during my terms of service I was not wholly a useless member and contributed in some degree to shaping the policy of my party."
"What was your party, Mr Gorman? You were a Republican, were you not?"
This was too much. Gorman grew ready to utter a volley of high explosives, but as he turned to face his visitor he saw a merry twinkle in the caller's eye. The Westerner had been guying him and he was just finding it out. It is needless to suggest that the remainder of the interview, which was by far the longer part of it, was of a most cordial and friendly character and that the Marylander, to use a street expression, almost "coughed us his boots" on all marters of public interest and more than fulfilled the expectations of the man, by the way, is now one of Gorman's greatest admirers and would like to see him Precident of the United States.

The Woman's Page

"Will some one please chase the cow down this way?" said the funny boarder, who wanted some milk for his oatmeal.
"Here, Jane," said the landlady in a tone that was meant to be crushing, "take the cow down there where the calf is bawling."